



**STATE OF VERMONT
Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501**

The State Board of Education shall sustain a vision of high skills, creative thinking, and love of knowledge and learning for every student by setting education policy that ensures student achievement in a safe and healthy learning environment.

**Vermont State Board of Education
Special Meeting
November 17, 2008
Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center, 117 Williston Road, South Burlington**

Approved Special Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2008

PRESENT: Tom James, Chair; Ruth Stokes, Vice-chair; Kathy Larsen; Chris Robbins; Brian Vachon; Susan Schill; Fayneese Miller

Chair Tom James called the meeting to order at 7:45a.m.

Motion: At 7:50 a.m., Stokes moved, Robbins seconded, to go into executive session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the position of commissioner of education position. The motion passed unanimously.

Board member Fayneese Miller arrived at 10:10 a.m.

At 1:08 p.m., the board recessed for lunch.

At 2:30 p.m., the board resumed executive session for the purpose of hearing input from the three focus groups regarding the commissioner of education candidates. Merryn Rutledge, Bill Romond and Carol King were present.

At 4:45 p.m., the Board recessed for a break.

At 5:00 p.m., the board resumed executive session for discussion regarding the candidates for the commissioner position. Merryn Rutledge was present. The board came out of executive session at 6:15 p.m.

No action was taken.

Motion: At 6:25 p.m., Chris Robbins moved, seconded by Ruth Stokes, to adjourn the November 17 special meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol King
State Board Administrator



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Approved Special Meeting Minutes – Focus Group 2

PRESENT: Bill Talbott; Jill Remick; Mark Oettinger; Cindy Lee; Marty Gephart; Gail Taylor; Bob Gross; Linda Hendrickson; Karin Edwards; Holly Morehouse; Carol Duley; Ken Remsen; Allison Welch Keating; John Turner, Facilitator - Vermont Department of Education staff.

Facilitator John Turner called the Focus Group to order at 9:15 a.m.

Motion: At 9:15 am, Cindy Lee moved, Jill Remick seconded, that Focus Group #2 enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. The motion passed unanimously.

Focus Group #2 recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m., and resumed executive session at 1:00 p.m.

At 2:40 pm, Jill Remick moved, Cindy Lee seconded, that Focus Group #2 come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

Facilitator John Turner declared Focus Group 2 adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Turner
Facilitator



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Approved Special Meeting Minutes – Focus Group 3

PRESENT: Facilitator Laurie Singer, John Everitt, Peter Herman, Brian Howe, Patricia Moulton Powden, Alex Aldrich, David Cadreact, Kyle Weinreich, Lucia Bragg, David Chiaravalle, Nicole West, Colin Craig, Ruth Durkee, Lisa Ventriss, Peter Peltz

Facilitator Laurie Singer called the Focus Group to order at 10:30 a.m.

At 10:33 a.m., Brian Howe moved, Nicole West seconded, that Focus Group #3 enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. The motion passed unanimously.

Focus Group #3 recessed for lunch at 1:30 p.m., and resumed executive session at 2:15 p.m.

At 3:50 Alex Aldrich moved, Ruth Durkee seconded, that Focus Group #3 come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

Facilitator Laurie Singer declared the Focus Group adjourned at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Singer
Facilitator



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Approved Special Meeting Minutes – Focus Group 4

PRESENT: Facilitator Chip Evans, Karrin Wilks, Penny Bishop, Cynthia Laware, Angelo Dorta, Mark Aliquo, Ellie McGarry, Diana Leddy, Robert Stevens, John Nelson, Jeff Francis, Retta Dunlap, David Leo-Nyquist, Johanna Donovan, Duane Marsh, Susan Stitely,

Facilitator Chip Evans called the Focus Group to order at 9:30 a.m.

At 9:35 a.m., Jeff Francis moved, Cynthia Laware seconded, that Focus Group #4 enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. The motion passed unanimously.

Focus Group #4 recessed for lunch at 11:30 a.m., and resumed executive session at 12:15 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m. Cynthia Laware moved, Susan Stitely seconded, that Focus Group #4 come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

Facilitator Chip Evans declared the Focus Group adjourned 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chip Evans
Facilitator